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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/691,709	10/24/2003	Kenichiro Tada	041465-5208	6776
55694	7590	06/05/2007	EXAMINER	
DRINKER BIDDLE & REATH (DC) 1500 K STREET, N.W. SUITE 1100 WASHINGTON, DC 20005-1209			HASAN, SYED Y	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		2621		
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		06/05/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/691,709	TADA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Syed Y. Hasan	2621	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 October 2003.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1 - 4 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1 - 4 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 24 October 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:
 - (1) On page 6, line 2, "TH_PATH" should be "THM_PATH" per figure 1.
 - (2) On page 7, line 2, "Ptr_Tbl_Ns" should be "Ptr_Tbl_Nu" per figure 1.
 - (3) On page 8, line 6, "recode modular" should be "record module" per figure 2.

Appropriate correction is required.

Drawings

2. The drawings are objected to because of the following informalities:
 - (1) Figure 1, "V_PTD" should be "V_PID" as mentioned on page 6, line 21.
 - (2) Figure 2, number 12, "PTS Resistor" should be "PTS Register" and "POS Resistor" should be "POS Register" as mentioned on page 8 line 9 – 10.
 - (3) Figure 2, "bus 15" is not shown as mentioned on page 8, line 11.
 - (4) Figure 5, "P00" should be "B00" as mentioned on page 12, line 23.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for

consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1 - 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Oishi et al (US 6141490) in view of Cheney et al (US 6519283) and further in view of Angiulo et al (6275829)

Regarding claim 1 Oishi et al discloses an apparatus for recording a video signal into a recording medium (col 1, lines 7 – 14) , the video signal being included in a stream signal, the apparatus comprising:

a detector configured to detect display time information included in the stream signal (col 8, lines 65 – 67, detects display time)

a decoder configured to decode the stream signal to output the video signal (col 2, lines 43 – 45, data decoded and output for reproduction)

a display time information acquisition unit configured to acquire the display time information detected by the detector in response to an acquisition command (col 10, lines 48 – 50 and col 16, lines 20 – 26 illustrate capturing display time)

However, Oishi et al does not disclose a scaler configured to change a display scale of the video signal outputted by the decoder

a switch connected to an output of the scaler;

a memory connected via the switch to the scaler;

a controller configured to control a switching operation of the switch so that the video signal outputted from the scaler is stored in the memory, the outputted video signal corresponding to the information acquired by the acquisition unit.

Cheney et al on the other hand teaches a scaler configured to change a display scale of the video signal outputted by the decoder (col 8, lines 65 – 68 and col 9, line 1)

a switch connected to an output of the scaler (col 9, lines 24 – 26 illustrate switching between normal and scaled mode)

a memory connected via the switch to the scaler (col 9, lines 12 – 18, illustrates memory being utilized to control display) and

a controller configured to control a switching operation of the switch (col 8, lines 52 – 57 illustrates controller controlling switching operation) so that the video signal outputted from the scaler is stored in the memory (col 9, lines 12 – 18 illustrates memory function in scaler function) the outputted video signal corresponding to the information acquired by the acquisition unit (col 9, lines 15 – 18)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to incorporate a scaler configured to change a display scale of the video signal outputted by the decoder;

a switch connected to an output of the scaler;

a memory connected via the switch to the scaler;

a unit configured to acquire the information detected by the detector in response to an acquisition command

a controller configured to control a switching operation of the switch so that the video signal outputted from the scaler is stored in the memory, the outputted video signal corresponding to the information acquired by the acquisition unit as taught by Cheyney et al in the system of Oishi et al in order to provide a capability of displaying many pictures simultaneously.

The combined invention of Oishi et al and Cheney et al does not disclose changing a display scale to a desired size of thumbnail.

However Angiulo et al teaches changing a display scale to a desired size of thumbnail (figure 3, col 9, lines 28 – 33, illustrates the sizing of the thumbnail

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate changing a display scale to a desired size of thumbnail as taught by Angiulo et al in the combined system of of Oishi et al and Cheney et al in order to control the size of the displayed image.

Referring to claim 2, Oishi et al does not disclose the apparatus, wherein the memory is configured to memorize the video signal sectioned by a sync signal and outputted from the scaler.

However Cheney et al teaches the apparatus, wherein the memory is configured to memorize the video signal sectioned by a sync signal and outputted from the scaler (col 14, lines 33 – 38 illustrates the scaled signal into memory)

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the apparatus, wherein the memory is configured to memorize the video signal sectioned by a sync signal and outputted from the scaler as taught by Cheney et al in the system of Oishi et al in order to secure the information before outputting for display.

The method claim 3 is rejected based on claim 1 above.

Regarding claim 4, the proposed combination of Oishi et al, Cheney et al and Angiulo et al discloses all the claimed limitations as discussed in claim 1 above with additional limitation “computer-readable program” (see Cheney et al col 2, lines 47 – 51, illustrating a computer program)

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure

Morotomi et al (US 7212731) discloses a recording and /or reproduction apparatus and recording and/or reproduction method.

Laksono et al (US 6297852) discloses a video display method and apparatus with synchronized video playback and weighted frame creation.

Tsukagoshi et al (US 5848217) discloses subtitle encoding/decoding method and apparatus.

Abe (US 5680177) discloses a multi-screen television receiver to simultaneously output and display multiple pictures on a single screen.

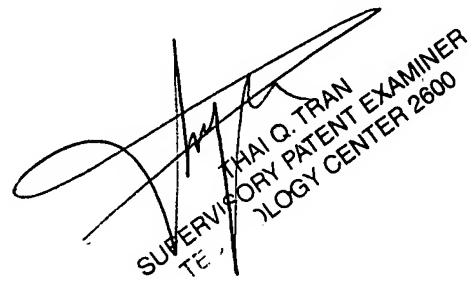
Miyaguchi (US 5091786) discloses a multi-screen feature for definition television digital processing units, systems and methods.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Syed Y. Hasan whose telephone number is 571-270-1082. The examiner can normally be reached on 9/8/5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thai Tran can be reached on 571-272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

S.Y.H.
5/16/2007



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